

# Allie Azersky's Student Teaching Gem!

In Cascade View Elementary in Tukwila, there are three classroom management strategies that are used consistently in every classroom in the school:

- Behavior Chart
- "Give me 5"
- Self-Manager Badges

This consistency throughout teachers and grade levels helps students to understand exactly what is expected of them by every adult in the school in every room. Expectations remain similar as students progress through grade levels, which lessens the amount of teaching needed of some procedures as students reach intermediate grade levels.

## **Behavior Chart:**



Students and teacher monitor behavior through behavior charts hung in every classroom in the school. Each teacher applies this system a little differently to suit their personal management style, age of learners, and needs. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classroom where I interned, there were four colors/behavioral levels.

The following descriptions were posted above the chart:

- Green: Great job!
- Yellow: Be careful!
- Orange: Consequence.
- Red: Call home.

The consequence for having an orange card was losing your self-manager badge (explained below), or if the student no longer had their badge, missing recess. In my class, student names weren't used. Each student was assigned

a number in order to provide some level of anonymity.

## **"Give me 5!":**



"Give me 5" is a signal used by teachers, para-educators, and administrators to gather students' attention. There are a few variations on this tool, but it remains fairly consistent throughout different classrooms and grade levels in the school. The three most commonly used forms are listed below:

- Teacher says "give me 5" and slowly counts to the number five. By the time the teacher reaches "5," all students should have nothing in their hands and their eyes on the teacher.
- Teacher says "give me 5." Students become quiet, look at the teacher, and hold five fingers in the air.
- Teacher counts down from five: "five, four, three, two, one." Students join in the count down and are quiet with eyes on the teacher when the class reaches "1."

## **Self-Manager Badges:**



Every student in every grade level has a self-manager badge. Students earn the privilege of wearing their badge when they follow all school rules and hand in all of their homework. Students may receive special privileges within their classroom if they are wearing their badge, such as some teachers allow these students to line up first or give them a little extra/special snack. If a student loses their badge, it will be returned to them the following Monday, as each week comes with a fresh start. Student who keep their badges for the entire trimester are recognized at the awards assembly and attend a pizza party with the principal.